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**Our reference:**  
**Your reference:**  
**Date:** 11 October 2023

### **Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet – Tuesday, 10 October 2023**

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 10 October 2023 the following decisions were reached on the items listed in the attached schedule.

**The implementation of any key decisions are suspended until the call-in period has expired without a call-in being validly invoked.**

**Under the Rushcliffe Borough Council Constitution, call-in is available in respect to key decisions only.**

The call-in deadline for any key decisions contained in this Decision Notice is before the end of the working day on Thursday, 19 October 2023. Subject to any call-in request being received, all the decisions will be actioned after Thursday, 19 October 2023.

Any Member of the Council shall be entitled to call for a decision to be suspended. To effect the call-in procedure, the appropriate form should be completed and returned to the Chief Executive by the end of the working day on Thursday, 19 October 2023.

### **LGA CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE**

**It was RESOLVED that:**

- a) the content of the report, outlining the Council's participation in a Corporate Peer Challenge be noted;
- b) Cabinet commits to meeting the obligations, as set out in paragraph 4.6 of the report; and
- c) A report be brought back to Cabinet, following the conclusion of the Corporate Peer Challenge, which sets out the findings, recommendations and resulting action plan.

### **REASON FOR DECISIONS**

The Corporate Peer Challenge is a valuable tool for improvement, made freely available to all councils every five years. Having last participated in 2018, now is the right time to make use of this opportunity once again, to receive impartial, transparent and expert advice, to help the Council to identify areas for improvement

to continue to deliver high quality services for its residents.

## **ADOPTION OF TREE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION POLICY 2023-2028**

### **It was RESOLVED that:**

- a) adoption of the Tree Management and Protection Policy 2023-2028 be approved; and
- b) the use of the amended Conservation Area Tree Notification and Tree Preservation Order evaluation sheet be approved.

### **REASON FOR DECISIONS**

If adopted, the Policy will set out guidance for officers, Councillors and the public in relation to a range of common tree issues and statutory obligations. The Policy should provide a useful guide to the management of Council owned trees along with the protection of trees within the Borough until 2028, when it will be reviewed and updated.

The legislation covering Tree Preservation Orders allows for significant discretion when deciding whether or not trees warrant protection. Officers rely on the Council's Corporate Strategy, Government policy and their own professional training when considering these issues. It is often useful to document and record the thought process when protecting trees and the Council uses a points-based assessment to do this. Feedback from the Growth and Development Scrutiny Committee was that greater consideration needed to be given to the wildlife value of the trees and the updated assessment gives additional weight to this.

## **UKSPF AND REPF PROPOSED GRANT POTS 2024/25**

### **It was RESOLVED that:**

- a) the proposals as outlined in the report for UKSPF and REPF grant pots be supported;
- b) a further report be requested to Cabinet in early 2024, outlining proposals for the remaining UKSPF to be spent in 2024/25; and
- c) sign off of grant awards and reallocation of grant funding between priorities (Business Support and Communities and Place) for UKSPF and REPF be delegated to the S151 Officer and Director – Development and Economic Growth, in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Business and Growth, following officer recommendations based on assessment and moderation.

## **REASON FOR DECISIONS**

In 2022/23, it was agreed by Cabinet that an allocation of UKSPF and REPF was used for a grant pot. This enabled local groups and businesses to progress projects delivering outcomes across the Borough. The grant pot was oversubscribed demonstrating that there is a demand in the Borough. It is recommended therefore that, taking account of lessons learned from the current grant pot, a further allocation of funding is made in 2024/25.

## **ASSIGNING STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE FOR BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN ASSESSMENTS**

**It was RESOLVED that** the proposals for assessing strategic significance under Biodiversity Net Gain be approved.

## **REASON FOR DECISIONS**

To ensure that the Council's strategic biodiversity aims are delivered within Rushcliffe, following the implementation of mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain requirements, expected to commence in January 2024, following an announcement made by Government on 27 September 2023.

## **RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL 50 YEARS ANNIVERSARY PLANS**

**It was RESOLVED that** proposals to undertake a series of initiatives to commemorate the past 50 years be approved.

## **REASON FOR DECISIONS**

The 50th Anniversary of the formation of the Borough of Rushcliffe provides an ideal opportunity to recognise the contribution that the Council has made to local, regional and national government, and to celebrate some of the key dates, events and individuals who have given up their time to make a real difference to their communities.

Yours sincerely,



**Gemma Dennis  
Monitoring Officer**